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■ OVARIAN CANCER: Sale Aug. 18

Take a Walk for Hope

WAYNE CAMPBELL,
Pelham NEWS Staff

An unused lamp, a rarely used tool or dusty tray could help research into ovarian cancer.

Jayne Watson, a ovarian cancer survivor, will hold a garage sale at 8 Hwy 20 E on Saturday, Aug. 18.

It's a fund raiser leading to Niagara Region Ovarian Cancer's Walk for Hope. The five kilometer walk is on Sunday, Sept. 9, at Harold Black Park.

see CANCER | page 2

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WAYNE CAMPBELL, Staff Photo

Jayne Watson, left, holds a lamp that will go into a Saturday, Aug. 18, garage sale at 8 Hwy 20 E. to raise money for the Niagara Region Ovarian Cancer Walk for Hope on Sunday, Sept. 9 at Pelham's Harold Black Park. Diane Watter has T-shirt that will be given to the first 100 walkers to donate \$25 or more during the September 5k walk.



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■ CANCER: September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month

Walk for Hope Sept. 9

FROM PAGE 1

"We can't all make money donations, our funds have places to go," she said. "But we may have something in the warehouse we could give to a garage sale."

Sale items can be dropped off at the DJ Weight Management office, 8 Hwy 20 E., 283-897-8903.

The Walk of Hope has two purposes: to raise awareness and to fund research for an early detection test.

Those detected in the early stages have a 90% survival rate.

Watson hopes to beat the odds. She is among the later stages of ovarian cancer. Survival beyond five years is 20%.

"I'm an optimistic person," said the upbeat 50-year-old dietician. Her cancer was found in 2010 and she has two three-month treatments of chemotherapy separate by surgical removal.

She credits the support from the oncology department at St. Catharines General Hospital for helping her to keep going.

"You do have your down moments, you do feel sorry for yourself."

She described the sadness

of losing her long hair after chemotherapy. "We women are vain about our hair."

During recovery, it has grown back.

Her ovarian cancer was discovered when she was being tested for something else. "I had having bladder problems."

Too often a woman's problem is written off as menopause, PBS or other ailments before ovarian cancer is considered, Watson said.

With a daughter and twin two-year-old granddaughters, she hopes her fundraising will find an early detection test - and eventually a cure to spare them from the cancer.

"I hear a lot of sad stories," she said.

Diane Watters, who is assisting her, lost her mother to ovarian cancer 21 years before.

During Summerfest, they had an information booth and planned to give out survival tips.

"I only handed out three," said Watson, "but heard many stories from visitors about friends and relatives who didn't make it."

She described the sadness

wayne.campbell@summedia.ca

OVARIAN CANCER WALK OF HOPE

■ Ovarian Cancer fundraising garage sale Saturday, Aug. 18, 9 a.m. to noon. Donations and volunteers needed.

■ Niagara Region's Ovarian Cancer's Walk for Hope Sunday, Sept. 9, at Harold Black Park. Part of a national Walk of Hope.

■ September is Ovarian Cancer Awareness Month.

■ Each year 2,500 women diagnosed in Canada and 1,700 die.

■ There is no reliable screen test for early detection of ovarian cancer.

■ The HPV vaccine helps prevent cervical cancer but not ovarian cancer.

■ What to look for: swelling of bloating of abdomen, pelvic discomfort, back or abdominal pain, fatigue, gas, nausea, indigestion, change in bowel habits, emptying bladder frequently, menstrual irregularities, weight gain or loss. See doctor if more than three weeks.

■ Family history of breast, ovarian or colon cancer.

Source - Ovarian Cancer Canada

■ GOVERNMENT

Region claims Green Energy Capital title

BY JEFF BOLICHOWSKI,
QMI Agency Niagara

ST. CATHARINES - Niagara Region has crowned itself the king of green power.

In a 20-7 vote, regional council proclaimed Niagara the Green Energy Capital of Canada. The moniker, proposed by Niagara Falls Mayor Jim DiDiodato, will adorn signs at key entryways to Niagara.

But the decision iced in was west Niagara who are battling with the province to be some councillors asking which side the Region has to the name.

"It's easy for (DiDiodato) to talk about green energy. He's got Niagara Falls, for pete's sake," said Welland Coun. Peter Kormos.

He slammed solar power as insufficient and wind power as a "sham," and said he "would care less" about supporting the moniker from the Greater Niagara Chamber of Commerce.

"Putting that kind of sign up is like declaring, 'I'm the Pope, so you'd better kiss my ring,'" he said.

But Port Colborne Mayor

Vance Badaway said the nickname could mean jobs.

"It's not just about putting a sign up, it's a matter of the region. There's an economy attached to it," he said.

He said taking on the name could help Niagara regain an economic edge.

It sends a message, he said, that industry will be closer to power sources here. That means lower costs.

The move, Badaway said, is "150 years overdue."

DiDiodato's motion noted the time around label Niagara as a green energy development leader and signal Niagara is a key contributor to the country's green economy.

Businesses here, the motion notes, have already embraced the green moniker.

But Wainfleet Mayor April Jeffs said the motion "flies in the face" of Wainfleet town council's opposition to wind turbines projects going up in the area.

"To declare this all-encompassing designation tonight, I think is premature," she said.

And Welland Mayor Barry Sharpe said the motion is "not

respectful" of municipalities in Niagara opposed to green power.

The motion passed with an amendment from Pelham Mayor Dave Augustyn to act on the moniker. He asked staff to update the Region's growth plan to reflect the green energy crown by the end of the year.

"I felt that we needed to take action in addition to making the proclamation," he said Friday. "The amendment will allow us to update our economic development strategy based on the proclamation and to address other initiatives."

The plan is called the Niagara Economic Growth Strategy 2009-2012.

St. Catharines Mayor Brian McMullan noted the vote wasn't about the province's controversial Green Energy Act, but about green energy in general.

"Really, what it's about is jobs," he said. "Why can't we be bold for some reasons, for the right reasons?"

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■ AIRPORT: David Devine has taken the helm of Niagara Central Airport

Big plans in the wings

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM — David Devine has big plans for Niagara Central Airport.

The facility's newly-appointed manager wants to start working on those plans as quickly as possible.

Devine, a Pelham resident who earned his private pilot's licence a decade ago as a student at that same airport, says he wants to start working "to make this a viable, vibrant airport that is sure to be one of all four communities."

The River Rd. facility gets funding from Pelham, Welland, Port Colborne and Wainfleet.

Devine says the airport hopes to maintain a good flight school and maintenance operation. He

wants to see it grow in the near future with more airplane hangars and other developments.

At the same time, he says he wants to listen "very closely" to what the communities themselves would like to see from the airport in terms of how we can assist with infrastructure."

For example, he recalls recently speaking to a commercial developer who called the airport with plans to visit Port Colborne.

"He needed transportation to get there," Devine said.

Devine's office is located in a new portable building that was recently located at the airport, to the west of the main hangar. That building was donated to the airport commission.

Devine says another initiative he'd like to develop is

to promote south Niagara as "an interesting place for the aviation tourist to come."

The retired teacher who now operates an aerial photographic service is hopeful to promote south Niagara events such as Canal Days and Marshville Heritage Festival, as well as passive recreational areas "to show people that there is a lot to do here, and all you have to do is come out here."

"There are many, many opportunities. It's just a matter of listening to people."

Devine's office is located in a new portable building that was recently located at the airport, to the west of the main hangar. That building was donated to the airport commission.

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ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

David Devine is the newly-appointed manager of Niagara Central Airport.

■ TRANSPORTATION: Councillors opt for regionwide program

One transit system for Niagara

JEFF BOLICHOWSKI
QMI Agency Niagara

THOROLD — One transit system to rule them all.

That's the direction Niagara Region councillors chose last week, when councillors got behind kick-starting a process that will lead to options for a true regional bus line.

In a pair of recorded votes, they scooted past

a challenge to Regional Chair Gary Burroughs and backed Port Colborne Mayor Vance Badaway's proposal for options by spring of 2013.

"This is a great opportunity for Niagara to be an easier and better place to work," said St. Catharines Coun. Bruce Timms.

And, he said, having a true regional transit system could mean attracting



Heit



Timms

"We don't have (GO) until we get regional transit," he said.

Councillors backed the motions despite St. Catharines Coun. Brian Heit bidding to split it in half, balking at the wording "facilitating the implementation" of a bus system.

That came after St. Catharines Coun. Andy Petrowski challenged his right to split the motion.

Petrowski's idea failed by an 18-9 score, and the votes passed in 17-10 and 23-4 afterward.

"Some of us are concerned" with the wording, Heit said, adding it could be read as locking the region into a bus system.

The proposal even drew support from regional transit foe Petrowski, who said he hoped it will help the region decide if

it needs to be in transit or not.

Badway said the motion asked the question of how regional transit should be provided, whether through the public or private sector.

"We are a world-class destination. Quite frankly, it's time we acted like it," he said.

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perspective



Wayne Campbell
EDITOR

Region lacks energy for capital

No regional council has tagged Niagara, the Green Energy Capital of Canada.

How many times have you heard a community booster proclaim his city, town, village, or crosroads the "best" city, town, village or crosroads in the world?

Prime Minister Stephen Harper recently gave his riding constituents in Niagara the "best" city tag.

Just saying it doesn't make it so.

Niagara Falls Mayor Jim DiDiodato proposed the region to become the home of hydro-electric production, we can see where he's coming from.

But what about the rest of the region?

Welland does have a solar panel plant and light-emitting diode (LED) producer while Port Colborne has biofuel production.

But parts of the region, particularly Wainfleet and West Lincoln are fighting installation of wind turbines.

Once burned, Pelham is cautious about solar panel initiatives. It will request for an environmental impact study if its planning and legal staff for close investigation.

Even the vote for the Green Energy Capital proclamation was split 20-20.

To be taken seriously as the Green Energy Capital of Canada, the region will have to do more than thumb its chest and throw up signs.

It will have to put the promotion of green energy projects and production into its official plans. It will have to show producers of green energy products that are welcome to set up plants in the region.

In order to show it is serious about using green energy, it will mean filling the region with solar panels, windmills, corn fields for biofuel, buildings designed for low energy use, and LED lighting on roadways.

And it will mean dumping superhighways and bigger regional roads in favour of a real regional transit system.

Until the region is ready to get serious, calling Niagara the Green Energy Capital of Canada remains a weak public relations stunt.

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comment

Pelham's property taxes through the years

When I started serving as your Mayor in December 2006, I promised to be fiscally responsible and to inform you about how your money was spent. Part of that promise involves looking back and comparing property tax changes.

PROPERTY TAX CALCULATION:

You will recall that the amount of property tax you pay to the Town of Pelham, to the region, and to the province (for education) is based on the Market Value Assessment of your property multiplied by the three tax rates combined.

Even though each entity sets their own rate for their own services, the town collects property taxes on behalf of the region and the province.

The "Pelham portion" of your tax bill accounted for only 34% of your total residential property tax bill in 2012. The Niagara Region accounted for 49% of the property taxes you pay in Pelham, while the Provincial educational portion was the remaining 17%.

MPAC (Municipal Property



Dave Augustyn
MAYORIAL VIEW

Assessment Corporation) – a provincial agency – assigns your property's "Market Value Assessment."

FROM 2004 TO 2012:

Pelham's combined 2012 property tax increase of 2.5% overall was among the lowest increases in Niagara Region this year.

But, what about over a longer period of time? Let's compare this term of Council so far – 2011 and 2012 – with the most recent couple of terms of council – the 2004 to 2006 budgers, and those from 2004 to 2006. (Unfortunately, staff does not have comparable information prior to 2004.)

The average increase of property tax on the Pelham portion of your tax bill for the last two years was 1.7% or an average "pocketbook"

increase of \$21.61 per year. For the last term of Council it was 3.4% or \$39.32 for an annual increase; for the 2004 to 2006 Council term it was 12.25% an average increase of more than \$105 per year.

If you review the entire tax bill – Pelham, Region, Education – the last two year's average increase was 1.2% or \$43.56 compared to 1.8% and \$62.41 from 2007 to 2010. The 2004 to 2006 term averaged a 5.9% increase or a \$181.28 average increase each year.

PELHAM'S PROPERTY TAX COMPARISON

Pelham's Residential Property Taxes Comparison

Pelham Portion Only	Total (Pelham + Region + Province)				
	Annual Change	Average Annual Change	Average Annual Increase	Annual Change	Average Annual Change
2004	14.0%			8.4%	
2005	16.10%			7.00%	
2006	5.6%	12.29%	\$105.14	4.40%	5.9%
2007	4.7%			2.60%	
2008	4.6%			2.50%	
2009	1.7%			1.90%	
2010	2.5%	3.4%	\$39.32	0.70%	1.89%
2011	0.6%			(d 1%)	
2012	2.55%	1.7%	\$21.61	2.50%	1.20%

Human trafficking – addressing a worldwide problem

In recently had the privilege of joining World Vision Canada's Parliamentary Delegation to Thailand and Cambodia. The purpose of the trip was to learn more about human trafficking and the programs that are making a difference.

I joined the delegation because I wanted to understand why trafficking is happening, and what Canadians can do – at government, community and individual levels – to help end this horrible crime.

My time with this delegation in Southeast Asia was eye-opening. My visits with community leaders that were working to combat trafficking through preventive measures, meetings with government leaders, community organizations, departments and with other national governments to take regional approaches to the problem, and listening to stories of trafficking themselves, I learned a great deal about the complexity of the issue and the myths surrounding it.

For example, while much attention has been paid to victims of sex trafficking, but 9 in 10 victims have been trafficked into exploitative labour situations. Trafficking victims



Dean Allison
FROM THE HILL

are both female and male young boys often trafficked from rural to urban areas to begin or work in factories.

Accurately assessing the number of trafficking victims in the region, let alone the world, is very difficult; many victims feel too ashamed or scared to report their experience to officials.

Regardless of the official count of victims – it is estimated that trafficking occurs in well over 27 million people worldwide – comprehensive responses to trafficking must go beyond rescuing victims from brothels or factories or prosecuting perpetrators and move toward fully addressing the 4Ps: prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnerships/polity development.

Moreover, effective efforts to combat trafficking need to also account for the people who financially benefit from the

trafficking of others, whether it is the trafficker or the destination businesses that use trafficked children and adults to save money on wages, cut labour shortages or create a workforce for dirty, dangerous or degrading (3D) jobs.

I learned that the factors that cause people to be vulnerable to trafficking are many, but one common vulnerability factor is migration. Two of these factors that can enrage individuals out of their communities are the promise of work, and the relative ease with which borders can be informally crossed.

Those motivated to migrate are frequently unaware of their rights, unsure of their way forward, and lack local connections beyond their immediate community. Once they begin their migration, they can easily be deceived by brokers (job recruiters) or traffickers who promise good jobs in the city.

Once trafficking victims have been deceived, relocated and placed into work by a broker, they often don't know how to escape. They are usually told that the cost of the work placement and travel has now put them in significant debt to the broker. As such, many boys, girls,

men and women are forced into terrible work and living conditions, earning small quantities of money that they themselves often do not see.

Only weeks before the trip, the government of Canada announced a National Action Plan to Combat Human Trafficking (<http://www.justice.gc.ca/eng/canadian-human-trafficking-plan.html>), the first of its kind in Canada and an initiative that I am proud of. Meetings with Thai and Cambodian government leaders, youth groups engaged in creative safe-migration education, community-protection network participants, amongst many others left me convinced that we are on the right track in Canada with our National Action Plan.

With a strong focus on the international components of the plan, we can ensure that Canada supports the kinds of interventions that are making a difference. But we can't stop there. Every Canadian can play a meaningful role in responding to trafficking.

Dean Allison is the Conservative Member of Parliament for Niagara West-Glennburn riding which includes Pelham.

■ CHAMBER: Presentation Friday Oct. 19 at Lookout Point Country Club

Call out for Ruby award nominees

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — It's time to polish up the Ruby Awards.

Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce is calling for nominations for the annual business awards program.

It will hand out prizes on Friday, Oct. 19, at Lookout Point Country Club in Pelham.

The event — once called the Oscars Eh! — is a celebration of the best in local business.

Nine award categories reflect aspects of business life in Welland and Pelham.

In 2008, the program changed its name to the Ruby Awards after a trademark dispute with Hollywood.

It's now named for Ruby Elise Hofe. She was born in 1855 and married Oscar William Quaker. The couple operated a prosperous Quaker Rd. farm.

In 1885, Ruby opened a small general store and in 1889, she helped to found the Welland board of trade, that became the Welland-Pelham Chamber of Commerce.

Nomination forms are on the chamber's website: www.wellandpelham-chamber.com



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- Employee of the Year for customer service;
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 - Youth Citizen of the Year Award;
 - Climate Action Niagara Eco Award of Excellence;
 - Venture Niagara Award for a woman with a small business;
 - RBC Financial Group Business Award for a small business of under 16 employees;
 - RBC Financial Group Business Initiative Award for an individual whose effort has made a difference in a company;
 - Business of the Year Award for top achievement;
 - The Stuart Cumming memorial award of merit for commitment to the chamber;
 - Youth Citizen of the Year for leadership in school or community.
- wayne.campbell@wellandnewsmedia.ca

2011 RUBY AWARD WINNERS

- Venture Niagara Award: Monica Maier Root, owner of Monicas's of Welland
- RBC Business Initiative Award: Ron Laevens and Julie Gledhill, Pet Valu
- RBC Business Award: Thomas Electronics
- Employee of the year: Devin Grenier, Boston Pizza
- Mary Anne Christoff Community Service Award: Fred Disher
- Business of the year: Marilee's Bridal and Evening Fashion
- Youth Citizen Award: Brendan Kaas
- Stuart Cumming Memorial Award: Kevin Jocobi
- Eco Action Award: Timbro Design Build Contractors..

■ CONSERVATION: Village to trail link cut

Jordan trail staircase removed

For Pelham NEWS

JORDAN — The Niagara Peninsula Conservation Authority has closed a staircase linking Jordan Village with the Twenty Valley Trail.

Staff inspections of the structure revealed that structural problems could not be repaired, the NPCA said in a news release.

As a result, the staircase has been removed and the pathway closed.

The Twenty Valley Trail remains open to the public between Ball's Falls Conservation Area and 21st Street.

The NPCA said it will explore options including funding opportunities to replace the staircase.

In the meantime, it is recommended that visitors wishing to hike the lower Twenty Valley Trail between Regional Road 81 and 21st Street use the parking area at the Baily Bridge.

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■ AGRICULTURE: Saving time and costs

High tech guides the farmer's plow

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

Technology in agriculture is about cutting costs.

It can provide better service to customers.

Technology scout Michael Kauzlaric with the Vineland Research and Innovation Centre looks for innovations for Canadian horticulture.

The growers set the goals for his research, he said. They are interested in reducing labour costs.

There is more use of machinery such as platforms that can carry workers and move along steadily," he said.

Orchard and vineyard sizes govern the use of expensive equipment. Operations of

2,000 acre are most likely to have it.

"It's like a homeowner who needs fill in his yard," he said. "He won't buy a dump truck to do it."

Smaller operations will use what they can afford.

Over the past six years frost fans, which circulate air to raise temperatures about 5°C, have appeared in orchards and vineyards, he said.

They were used this year when a late winter led to early blossoming of trees and bushes exposing potential fruit to spring frosts.

At White Meadows Farms in northern Pelham, the 600-acre operation has fields along Eppingham St. to grow corn, soybeans, hay and wheat.

In the spring, it opens its maple syrup producers and processes maple products for sale at its store and online.

Hay is White Meadows' main crop, Richard Bering said. The addition of a Bale-Band-It, a computerized binder, has made baling hay more efficient.

It improved its service to a niche market - horse farms. It produces 24.75-kg bales warped by bands in 21-bale stacks. They are small enough to transport on pickup trucks.

Rolled hay bales weight 270 kg and require large trucks for delivery.

On its tractors, White Meadows uses global positioning systems (GPS). It will "auto steer" a tractor across a field for the driver and record the amount of materials used. GPS-guided work reduces spray, seed and fuel.

It also helps less experienced drivers, said Nicholas Bering, about a plowing skill you may use only once a year.

"I was away from the farm and didn't develop the tractor skills like my father and brother," he said. "This evens it out."

YOU CAN'T DO IT ALL

While marketing can include a wide range of social media technology including Facebook, Twitter and YouTube, farmers know their limits.

They are in an industry of many chores and long hours.

"There is only so much time in the day," said Bryan Durst of Bry-Anne Farms about using social media technology.

In the fall, Bry-Anne Farms turns into The Great Pumpkin Patch with pumpkin sales, hayrides and corn maze.

Durst said it hasn't moved too much into social media to promote it although they do a little.

"Maybe I'll have to wait for the kids to train us," he said about his young family.

Richard Bering similarly sees time constraints.

White Meadows uses the Internet, something that wasn't accessible 10 years ago, to sell its maple products.

"However there is only so much you can do," he said of a regular work period.

It does, however, use a computerized label maker to customize maple syrup labels for special event like weddings or reunions.

Research help

■ **Vineland Research and Innovation Centre**

www.vinelandresearch.com

is a center for horticultural science and innovation.

Vineyard society product and production solutions to meet the needs of the horticulture industry.

It is an independent, not-for-profit organization, funded in part by Growing Forward, a federal-provincial program.

Following industry direction, Vineland looks for technological options to reduce labour, increase yields and improve the profit picture for the horticulture industry.

■ **Farm Smart**

www.agriph.ca/farmsmart

is a conference and trade show tied in with the University of Guelph. Each winter it presents the latest in research at the conference and products at the show. It's a partnership of Golden Horseshoe and Huron Regional Soil and Crop Improvement Associations, Ontario Agricultural College, the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs and various agri-businesses.

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WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo
Terry Morrow, left, and Nicholas Bering install an upgrade feature on a Bale-Band-It at White Meadows Farms. The computerized bale binder has streamlined production of hay bales to serve customers.

PUPO'S

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■ COMMUNITY: Regulars come through for benefit at Bissell's Hideaway

Resort visitors caring for Pelham Cares

DAVE JOHNSON
PelhamNEWS Staff

Berta Patterson had a little competition on last week, but that didn't dampen her spirits.

Patterson, Bissell's Hideaway's special events coordinator, was running her third fundraiser and food drive for Pelham Cares at the Medie Rd. campground.

In the past, the event, which also featured crafts and classic and antique cars, brought in between \$500 and \$1,000 for the Pelham agency. There was also a barbecue.

Crafters who brought tables to the event made donations to Pelham Cares as well as part of their admission.

With Pelham Summerfest running in downtown Fortinhill that weekend, Patterson expected fewer visitors.

"Our seasonal have come through though," she said.

Pelham Cares needs list

- Toilet paper, paper towels, instant coffee, tea.
- Large cans of fruit any kind (Urgent)
- Size 4, 5 and 6 diapers, Baby Wipes
- Nut-free granola bars, fruit cups (no sugar added)
- Jello (not sugar free), pudding mixes and pie fillings
- Chili/stew, small bottles of oil and salad dressing
- Small bags of flour, pancake mix
- Tampons, disposable razors (men's)
- Dish soap, shampoo, dog and cat food



Vince Galats looks over an antique car at Bissell's Hideaway.

DAVE JOHNSON Staff Photo

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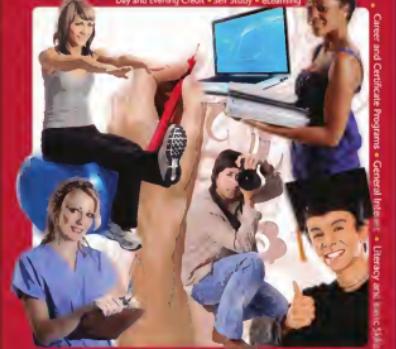


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Events are at the Fonthill branch of the Pelham Public Library unless otherwise indicated.

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EVERYTHING YOU CAN
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Create your very own work of art "The Button Tree" Wed., Aug. 8 at 1 p.m. Maple Acres Branch. \$4 Ages 6+.

MEDITATION MORNING

Marcia leads you through a number of types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. Please bring a pen and notebook with you. Sat., Aug. 11 9:30-11:30. Cost is \$3.00. Please register ahead.

HEARING CLINIC

Connect Hearing will be at the Fonthill branch giving free hearing screenings. They will answer any questions you may have about hearing losses. Aug. 13 from 10:00-1:00. Free but please schedule your appointment at: 905-832-6068.

**DIGITAL PHOTOGRAPHY
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Have you just purchased a DSLR or Point and Shoot camera or plan on purchasing one in the near future? If you want to better understand the controls and settings and how to compose a better photo, then this seminar led by Gary Toth of "Just Clicks"

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GIANT BOOK SALE

Great books at great prices. Most books \$1 or less. Collectables, puzzles, movies, software and much more! Tues., Aug. 21-Saturday Aug. 25 during open hours. On Saturday a tonne will get you a grocery bag of books.

SENIORS HAWAIIAN LUAU

Who says summer is just for the kids! Join us for this fun gathering with Hawaiian themed food, beverages, entertainment and door prizes. Free but please register ahead. Mon. Aug. 27 from 2-3 p.m.

MEDITATION MORNING

Marcia leads you through a number of types of meditations for stress relief and focus. Great for beginners and those who have meditated before. Please bring a pen and notebook with you. Sat., Aug. 11 9:30-11:30. Cost is \$3.00. Please register ahead.

have meditated before. Please bring a pen and notebook with you. Sat., Sept. 8. 9:30-11:30. Cost is \$3.00. Please register ahead.

ONGOING**DROP-IN BRIDGE**

Alternate Wed. Come alone or with a friend. Refreshments. Monthly schedule available at front desk. Pelham Public Library.

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■ **WILDLIFE:** Humane society's call volume has increased by 150%

Distemper outbreak spreading

ALLAN BENNER
PelhamNews Staff

WELLAND — An outbreak of distemper affecting raccoons has spread into the heart of Niagara.

While the disease was prevalent earlier this year in the Halton area, Welland and District Humane Society executive director John Greer said it has continued to spread westward into Niagara through the spring and summer months.

Humane society staff have been inundated with calls from people concerned about raccoons on their property with obvious symptoms of the final disease.

"Our wildlife calls are through the roof for raccoons this year. It just seems like epidemic proportions," Greer said. "It's all distemper related. That's the one really hit them hard."

He said the number of calls the humane society receives for raccoons with distemper symptoms is up about 150% over previous years.

"It's really been unfortunate."

Greer said wildlife experts he's spoken to suspect the unusually warm winter might have contributed to the prevalence of the disease.

Extremely cold temperatures kill off many viruses during the winter, but "this winter was so mild that when we did get cold spells they didn't really last, and the next day it could be up to almost 20 degrees."

Greer said one issue that may contribute to the spread of distemper is people trapping raccoons and illegally transporting them more than one kilometre away from their homes.

Doing so, he said, can "really decimate the wildlife population."

In addition to transporting the animal, he said people are inadvertently transferring the diseases the raccoon may be



ALLAN BENNER Staff Photo

A raccoon with distemper symptoms was found in the front yard of a Cook's Mills home in June and later picked up by Welland and District Humane Society. The outbreak of distemper affecting southern Ontario has meant a 150% increase in calls to the local humane society from people reporting sick raccoons.

carrying to "a whole new population of animals" that might have not been experiencing the same disease. He said the raccoon may seem healthy, but it could be carrying distemper.

"I think people are doing that more now," he said. "It's against the law. You can be fined for doing it."

Distemper attacks an animal's nervous system causing it to behave erratically, wander slowly and lethargically. Greer said a green tint is visible in the eyes of the ill animals when light is shone at them. "You have to be careful with your dogs," Greer said. "If you do get your dog to see their vaccine they should be fine, but if they do come in contact with a raccoon they should see a veterinarian to be checked just to make sure."

There are treatments that can prolong the life of an infected animal, but there is no cure.

Although the disease poses no threat to humans, Greer said people still need to be careful handling wild raccoons because the animals are also known to carry round worm — a parasite that can be deadly to humans.

"Anyone who does have a sick raccoon, they should be careful. If they're gardening, wear gloves because the round worm is transferable," he said.

allan.benner@sumedia.ca

The outbreak

- Humane society staff are responding to more than 14 calls a week assisting people who have found sick raccoons.
- People can report raccoons with symptoms of distemper by calling the humane society at 905-733-1552.
- Because there is no cure for the disease, the animals are humanely euthanized and their remains cremated.

SPICY BANDSHELL



Supplied photo

Sugar Heat makes it hot and spicy this Thursday. Sugar Heat plays a wide variety of Latin Music for parties. It is a high-energy, nine-piece Latin band with a full three-piece horn section, conga and percussion, and male and female singers. Their repertoire goes from classics of Salsa, Cumbia, Merengue, Cha Cha and Bachata from Latin America to Gypsy Music from Spain and all through the Latin top 40's from world's favourites like Gloria Estefan, Carlos Santana and Shakira. Sugar Heat will keep everybody on the dance floor guaranteed with their non-stop, continuous, spicy songs. Sugar Heat is presented by Lucchetta Homes. For more info go to www.fonthillbandsell.com.

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■ LAURELS: Magazine awards best of show for white wine to Fonthill man



WAYNE CAMPBELL Staff Photo

Wine Garden of Pelham winemaker Ron Kozub shows his best-of-show trophy and gold medal for his celebrated white wine, a 2010 Mosel Valley Gewurztraminer. It won in WineMaker magazine's recent international amateur wine competition.

Wine Garden toasted by WineMaker

WAYNE CAMPBELL
PelhamNEWS Staff

PELHAM — Winemaker Ron Kozub has a special carafe sitting on his shelf at the Wine Garden of Pelham.

It's a trophy for the best of show for a white wine — a 2010 Mosel Valley Gewurztraminer — in WineMaker magazine's international amateur wine competition.

The trophy, with a gold medal, is one of 13 major awards handed out by judges in Manchester, Vt.

The contest included 4,318 entries from 50 American states, eight Canadian provinces and seven countries.

This was the fourth year Kozub has entered wine samples.

"I do it to test the quality of our products against some of the best around," he said.

Wine Garden of Pelham, at Regional Rd. 20 and Rice Rd., works with customers who want to concentrate Six weeks later they bottle the wine.

Kozub and his wife spend the six weeks moving, fine tuning and storing fermenting wine in a chilled cellar.

Kozub said comments from the competition's three judges, who sample each wine, help him assess his products.

"I ask our customers to donate a bottle from some of the batches," he said of entry selection. The best of show came from Kelly Brown.

Usually Kozub enters six or eight categories. He has won two gold, five silver and four bronze medals, but, he said, best

of show is a major award.

Kozub says about 500 customers a year making 30-bottle batches that each range from \$112 for standard wines to \$200 for premium.

In 1995, Kozub combined a lifelong passion for winemaking with business skills of an engineering department manager to take over Wine Garden of Pelham. "I was happy I did it."

There is a lot of misunderstanding about making wine from concentrates, he said.

"Some think it isn't the same quality, but it is."

Changes in the process of removing water from wine to form concentrates retain their original quality, he explained.

Concentrates from Europe, South Africa, California and Australia are shipped around the world.

Many local Niagara wine products are mixtures of local and foreign wines, he said.

Wine Garden of Pelham uses Winexpert and Wyeast products that offer 140 varieties of wine.

wayne.campbell@sunmedia.ca

Taste of the grape

- Wine Garden of Pelham offers 140 varieties of wine.
- For information visit www.winegardens.ca.
- For WineMaker magazine visit www.winemakermag.com.

■ BASEBALL: This week in baseball

Pelham rounds the bases

COME FROM BEHIND

The Fonthill Pharmaverse Midget baseball team pulled off a dramatic come from behind win over Grimsby on Thursday, in a rain-soaked game at Harold Black Park. After taking an 11-7 lead into the sixth inning, the heavy downpour brought a flood of runs from Grimsby, as they jumped into the lead.

Pelham started a rally in their last at bat with Laura Gemmill keeping the inning alive with a two-out 2 RBI drive down the right field line, and later came around to score.

Blake Paylove and Ryan Guzowski contributed clutch hitting, Benjamin Raule stole multiple bases, and Brian Cunningham and Dan Horrocks provided solid pitching.

HOME AND HOMECOMING

The Pelham Five by Five Design Studio Bantams played a home and home series against Thorold this week, coming away with a tie and a win. The tie came at Harold Black Park, where Sean Hooley got two hits and a walk, and Gavin Dudzik, Alex DiPola, and Jacob Flagg each got hits and came in to score.

The Bantams then travelled to Thorold to score a victory with good pitching from Shoeless Daniel Lewis, Graeme Ciccarelli, Gavin Dudzik, and Matt Mann. Matt Sticks saved a run with a play at the plate, and Zach Otto made a key double play in the bottom of the sixth to give Pelham the win.

ROOKIE BATS ALINE

Miller Restoration Rookie Ball won 18-5 against Welland. The Green Bokkes 2 team played exceptionally well, with good base running. Carly Elichich and Joshua Pensacchetti both had RBIs, and Connor Debak had a great hit in the second inning, and was so close to getting a home run.

TURN ON THE HEAT

The PELBA T-Ball team, The Green Bokkes, enjoyed a day off from the humidity during their game, yet they still managed to turn on the heat during the action-packed evening. Hollie Lancione was quick to scoop up a few ground balls in the infield, followed by some great throws to first.

There were two star first basemen - the always smiling Jaxon Vanderlip, and the ever-enthusiastic Emilio Geremia. Both boys were focused and excited to help out the team. Despite a wiffleout in the previous inning, Darwin Mayes had a great final hit of the game and whirled around each base for a home run.

"There may only be a few games left in the season, but this team certainly isn't ready to start slowing down."

REP TEAM RAPS ITS

The Mosquito Rep team, sponsored by Messina's, defeated the Niagara Falls Minors 23-2 on Monday. Mitchell Carmichael had 4 singles, Tyler Dobbie had a home run and 4 runs scored, and Max Blanchard, Joshua Campbell, Alex Blanchard and Alex Repas scored 3 runs each. Zachary Baltruusovich pitched a 3 up 3 down inning to end the game.

MOSQUITO STING

On Tuesday, the Mosquito Rep team defeated Welland 16-3, with Cam Crisler going 3 for 3, and Alex Blanchard and Ben Mann hitting home runs. Tyler Dobbie pitched 3 shutout innings, with Joshua Campbell coming in to shut down a rally and get the last out of the game.



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Busy weeks for Pelham baseball

For Pelham News

The Large Rookie Ball Blue Jays bats hand against rival Pelham teams this week in back to back games. The first game was incredibly close, with runs exchanged each inning and equally good playing on both sides. For the Blue Jays, Alex Rubino caught an infield fly, Wyatt Gibson threw out a runner at first and Maya Dalton registered a hit. Brandon Haskins, who came from his injury, got two base hits. Carrying the tie right to the last inning, the Blue Jays bats made up the difference with much needed hits from Simon Killen and Michael Dyson for a final decision in favour of the Blue Jays.

Quick hands came out to play in Wednesday's game against the Pelham Stealers, with Ethan

Wells making an unassisted out at first, Louis Slingerland a tag at second, and Alex Rubino a force at second.

Kelsey Dyson, Matthew Iannuzzi, and Paige Dixon all played solidly in the infield. Turning up the heat at bat, Cole Slingerland slugged out two doubles and Ben Iannuzzi got two base hits. Nolan Killeen exercised excellent base running when he slid into second, just beating out the tag. He would later go on to score, giving the Blue Jays the win.

MOSQUITOES BUZZ

The Pelham Panthers Mosquito Star Centre Team played a great game against Welland earlier. Nicholas Yolidassis hit a home run, Adam Bissou caught two fly balls, and Braydon Russel did a great job as back catcher, catching a foul ball.

REDS EXCITED

It was an exciting night for the Pelham Meridian Credit Union Pewee Reds as they faced Welland, and lost a close battle by one run. In the first inning, pitcher Rowan McLellan dealt two strikeouts, and only one earned run. At the plate, a triple by Ryan Dijkstra into right field was followed by some great attempts to score him but he was tagged out at third. In the second inning, however, a passed ball by George Joschko was followed by Mattieh Leppert and then a colossal home run up the middle by Charlie deVries. Scott Hooper pitched the next two innings and recorded four strikeouts. In the last inning the Reds gave a great effort, when a single by Rowan McLellan to left field was followed by another equally impressive home run by Scott Hooper. A double by Josh George was followed by a great hustle to first by Charlie deVries, scoring an RBI. The Reds stranded the winning run at second and the game ended under the lights.

T-BALL HOT GAME

In PMBA T-Ball, there may have been record high temperatures at this game, but that didn't slow down the Green Lightning. They came out in full force and brought their usual energy and exuberance. Gabriel Forte was as quick as usual, rounding the bases at top speed. Ethan Morgan was exceptional at first base, getting 3 outs in a row. He had a great game, and followed it up with a home run off of Dylon Mayes. At home plate, Maverick Halsel was alert and hustled to retrieve the ball with each throw. All this certainly made for a great game. The PMBA T-Ball Green Lightning team had a full roster for their game at North Pelham Park on July 10. This made for an excellent game, filled with speed, concentration, and a solid defense. Connor Denbak and Matthew Olszak and Peter Peletier made some sensational throws. In the pitcher's position, Julianne Morgan hustled to retrieve the ball every time. And Alek Morgenstern surprised us with a few solid hits at bat. They're green and as fast as Lightning. Watch out for this team.

ROOKIE SELECTED

The Rookie Select Lunch Lady Panthers went on the road on Thursday July 5 for a game against the St. Catharines Cobras. The normally hot hitting Panthers experienced a power outage only pounding out 9 hits and 1 run while St. Catharine's scored 17 runs in 6 innings of play. The Panthers were led offensively by Jacob Smith and Connor Denbak, with two hits apiece. While defensively struggling through much of the year, the team came up with its best defensive effort of the season. Connor Denbak matched his offensive effort with several stellar plays on D to earn player of the game honours. Honourable mention on defense went to Owen Dobbin and Drew McArthur for controlling the centre of the infield against a tough hitting Cobra attack.

LUNCH LADY PANTHERS

On July 10, the Pelham Lunch Lady Panthers hosted Welland, and jumped out to a 5-0 first inning lead only to see Welland come back to

hand the Lunch Lady Panthers a 2-2 loss. Pelham was led by Jacob Shirton and William Beltrusinhus who pounded out three hits each, while with two hits apiece were Drew McArthur, Anthony Battista, Ethan Wells, Alex Rubino, and Curtis and Carson Crysler.

BATTERING BEAMSVILLE

Battling the scorching heat and only having nine players, the Welland Lunch Lady Panthers' Rookie Ball team won 10 to 2 against Beamsville. Special mention to William Beltrusinhus, Joshua Pennacchetti and Nathan Denbak for their skilled infield playing in the 5th inning, as well as Carly Elitch for her RBI in the 5th.

On July 10, Pelham Miller Restoration won 10 to 8 against Pelham Giant Tiger. A great effort by Welland was in the 4th inning by 3-run Stop William Beltrusinhus, who threw a zinger to Connor Denbak at first base. Special mention to a few batters in the game Nicholas Fraraccio, Carly Elitch, Aiden MacRae, Connor and Nathan Denbak who helped pull off the win.

AGCO

Alcohol and Gaming
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The personal information gathered is collected under the authority of the *Liquor Licence Act*. The principal purpose of collecting this is to assess eligibility for the issuance of a liquor licence legalities. Copies of all objections are given to the applicant. The information may also be disclosed pursuant to the *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act*. Questions about this collection should be directed to the Manager, Licensing and Registration, Alcohol and Gaming Commission of Ontario at the address, telephone numbers or e-mail address listed below.

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THURSDAY, AUG. 9:

FONTHILL BANDSHELL CONCERTS presents Neil Diamond and Tom Jones tribute, co-sponsored by Kwikfit and DJ Weight Management as part of the 2012 summer series of concerts. In its seventh season in Pelham Peace Park, shows run from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. each Thursday until Sept. 6.

SATURDAY, AUG. 11

RUMAGE AND BAKE SALE at Glad Tidings Church of God, 1 Pancake Lane, Fonthill from 8 a.m. to 12 noon.

SATURDAY, AUG. 18

GARAGE SALE FOR OVARIAN CANCER donations and volunteers 10 Hwy 20 E. 9 a.m. to noon. Money raised goes to Ovarian Cancer Walk of Hope on Sept. 3.

ONGOING**TUESDAY NIGHT BINGO**

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FONTHILL LEGION LUNCH

each Friday from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Royal Canadian Legion Branch 613 on Regional Rd. 20 east of downtown Fonthill. \$9 with takeout available. Main dish plus dessert, tea and coffee.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY

of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the first Tuesday of each month, except July and August. 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Rapelle Lodge, 277 Plymouth Rd., Welland. For info call 905-673-3944.

ALZHEIMER SOCIETY

of Niagara Region Support Groups for Caregivers meets the third Monday of each month, except July and August. 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m. at Alzheimer Society, 403 Ontario St. Unit 1, St. Catharines. For info call 905-687-3914.

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back. Millions of people seek treatment for their joint and inflammation problems by resorting to expensive, toxic prescription drugs (i.e. NSAIDS) with multiple side effects. These range from nausea and vomiting to serious intestinal disorders (bleeding, gas, pain) and even kidney and liver failure. Isn't that too large a price to pay for a little pain relief? LeafSource is a safe alternative to these destructive anti-inflammatory drugs that cause more problems than they solve. There are absolutely no side effects and it doesn't interfere with any other medications. Controlled experiments and observations have revealed that LeafSource is a potent anti-inflammatory that has been shown to bring a reduction to inflammation and pain within a few days. People notice great results in terms of more energy and less pain by taking anywhere from 2 to 6 capsules/day. Typical maintenance is usually 1 capsule twice daily. This product gets results! LeafSource is scientifically validated through more than 10 years of research at 4 universities, including the Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences, Mercer University. Aside from its incredible anti-inflammatory and pain reducing ability, it has also been shown to improve the performance of your daily nutrition and vitamin programs. It helps increase the absorption of vital nutrients, which in turn helps these nutrients work better. Better absorption = better results! It's almost as if they have become supercharged! LeafSource has also been shown to help enhance energy levels, improve intestinal health, strengthen hair, skin and nails and improve immune function. To see someone go from intense pain to a new lease on life within a week is truly incredible. Imagine being able to move freely without pain. Who wouldn't want to get out of bed in the morning with more energy? It's amazing how much of this stuff we take for granted, until it's gone! Ian adds, "I often recommend that LeafSource be taken with other natural joint products in order to help them work better and provide even faster relief. One of the things I hear most often from people who have tried LeafSource is they just plain feel better, have more energy and less pain. We're so confident, we guarantee LeafSource 100%! That alone should be enough to try this incredible product."



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